

ecoNews — Wire —

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

November 4, 2004
For immediate release

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION TO ADDRESS OPEN FEEDLOT RULES, TIRE CLEAN UP

DES MOINES – Tire clean up and rules for open feedlots will be on the agenda for the Environmental Protection Commission's Nov. 15 meeting.

The DNR rule proposal for open feedlots would differentiate between existing feedlots and new proposed feedlots or expansion. The proposal calls for additional design requirements for expansions and new lots.

In other action, commissioners will be asked to approve a contract to remove and process approximately 700,000 tires from Bee Rite Tire Disposal in Rhodes. This is the last of the large stockpile locations in Iowa needing clean-up.

The commission will meet Monday in Classroom B of the State Historical Building, 600 East Locust in Des Moines. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. Public participation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The agenda is as follows:

- Approval of Minutes
- Director's Remarks
- Notice of Intended Action - Amendment to Chapter 65 – Open Feedlot Regulations – Engineering standards.

- Emergency Rule - Amendments to Chapter 65 – Open Feedlot Regulations – Engineering standards.
- Final Rule - Chapter 60 - Scope of Title-Definitions-Forms-Rules of Practice, Chapter 62 - Effluent and Pretreatment Standards, Chapter 63 - Monitoring, Analytical and Reporting Requirements
- Chemplex petition for rulemaking: Chapter 53, Protected Water Source
- Contract - Salem Associates, Inc. for Database Programming and Support
- Contract - United States Geological Survey for Stream Gaging, Groundwater Level Measurements, and Groundwater Quality Monitoring.
- Contract - United States Geological Survey for Stream Monitoring on Big Rivers
- Contract - Iowa Department of Public Health for Brownfield Assistance
- Contract – Greenman Technologies of Iowa for Bee Rite Tire Disposal in Rhodes and State Center, Iowa Waste Tire Stockpile Abatement Project
- Notice of Intended Action: Chapter 22, Special Requirements for Visibility Protection, Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Applicability.
- Notice of Intended Action - Chapter 23, Emission Standards for Contaminants (Controlled burning of a demolished building.)
- Contract – Selection of Alternate Vendor for Web Enabling SPARS
- Decision whether to review Declaratory Order
- Declaratory Order No. 04-DO-01
- Des Moines Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency
- Monthly Reports
- General Discussion
- Items for next month's meeting

More information about the agenda items can be found on the DNR website under Commissions and Boards at www.iowadnr.com.

The members of the commission are Darrell Hanson, chair, Manchester; Kathryn Murphy, LeMars; Terrance Townsend, Newton; Lisa Davis-Cook, West Des Moines; Lori Glanzman, Mt. Pleasant; Jerry Peckum, Jefferson; Heidi Vittetoe, Washington; Francis Thicke, Fairfield; and Donna Buell, Spirit Lake. The director of the DNR is Jeff Vonk.

For more information, contact Karen Grimes, at (515) 281-5135.

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LAST OF THE BIG TIRE CLEANUPS

DES MOINES – The Environmental Protection Commission will be asked to approve a contract to clean up the last big waste tire site in Iowa at their Nov. 15 meeting.

Approval of the \$666,155 contract would pay for the removal and processing of approximately 700,000 tires at the Bee Rite Tire Disposal site in Rhodes and another

5,000 tires in State Center. If approved, clean up will begin in December and probably finish in May 2005.

The Bee Rite site is owned by Michael Trowbridge, Jerry Yoemans and Bee Rite Tire Disposal. A large fire occurred at the Rhodes site in December 2001. Subsequent enforcement actions by the DNR and the Attorney General's office resulted in a consent order, judgment and decree issued in June 2004. Bee Rite Disposal and its officers were issued a \$1.5 million penalty as part of the consent order.

"While we have about 70,000 tires total at 19 other small sites, the Bee Rite site is the largest remaining tire stockpile needing clean up," said Jeff Geerts, a planner with the DNR.

The DNR has cleaned up more than 10 million tires from more than 100 illegal sites from 1998 to 2002.

"Scrap tires serve as an excellent breeding ground for mosquitoes carrying the West Nile virus, are an eyesore, and a potential health and environmental risk if a fire breaks out. It's very important that all tire stockpiles be cleaned up and that Iowans properly dispose of scrap tires." Geerts said.

According to Geerts the DNR has a strong permitting, technical assistance and enforcement program in place to prevent large stockpiles from occurring again in Iowa.

The DNR is also starting work this fall on a new education program targeting Iowans and Iowa tire dealers related to proper tire maintenance and disposal and a campaign to crack down on illegal dumping. Coupled with this education effort, the DNR continues to place an emphasis on growing markets for scrap tires in Iowa.

In the past, some scrap tire collectors and processor were paid to collect the tires but had no market for the tires after processing. Now, tires are being processed into tire chips that are used for fuel, athletic fields, playground surfaces and many other products.

Geerts' advice for the average person – "Leave old tires at the dealer when you buy new ones, and if you have some scrap tires at home, contact your local landfill or solid waste agency for the nearest location to recycle them."

Most tire dealers charge a small fee for disposal of the old tires.

"Tires aren't gold," Geerts said. "The tire recycling market competes with other high volume, low-cost products such as sand, wood chips and coal, so profit margins are pretty tight. Those fees cover proper handling and disposal."

For more information, contact Jeff Geerts, at (515) 281-8176.

Note to editors: Photos of the Bee Rite tire site are available by calling Karen Grimes at (515) 281-5135.

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DNR INVESTIGATES FISH KILL IN CARROLL COUNTY

LIDDERDALE – The DNR is still investigating a fish kill that occurred on Monday in Elk Run Creek, a tributary of the North Raccoon River.

The DNR thinks the cause of the fish kill is runoff from an open feedlot, but the DNR began dye testing on Wednesday to determine the source.

“If anyone sees red dye in the water, they shouldn’t be alarmed, but should give us a call,” said Alison Manz, a DNR investigator from the Atlantic DNR field office.

The fish kill was discovered about four miles northwest of Lidderdale on Monday while the DNR investigated a complaint about a dead cow.

An accurate count of the fish killed was hampered by muddy and turbid water, but more than 1300 minnows, 91 stonerollers and 10 dead suckers were found.

The downstream water supply at Des Moines was notified.

For more information, contact Alison Manz at the Atlantic DNR field office at 712-243-1934.

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WASTEWATER RELEASE AT STORM LAKE PLANT

STORM LAKE — Cleanup is currently underway for an early morning wastewater release at the Sara Lee Foods plant in Storm Lake.

A two-hour power outage that began around 3:30 a.m. Thursday caused the release of 100 to 200 gallons of process wastewater to the Sara Lee parking lot, which flowed to a stormwater ditch. The parking lot was diked to contain the wastewater, although some did reach the stormwater ditch. The wastewater is being pumped out of the ditch and placed back into the plant’s wastewater treatment system.

The wastewater did not reach a storm sewer intake or Storm Lake. Live fish were observed at the outfall to the lake.

For more information, contact Julie Sievers at (712) 260-0625.

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CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS BYPASSES TO CREEK

CEDAR RAPIDS — A wastewater bypass Thursday afternoon in Cedar Rapids sent between 2,300 to 4,600 gallons of wastewater to an unnamed creek.

A blockage in a sewer line caused the bypass, which lasted about 25 minutes. The bypassed wastewater flowed from a manhole and over ground for about five feet before reaching the creek, which is a tributary to Prairie Creek.

High water flow in the creek should help to dilute the wastewater. The area between the manhole and creek will be disinfected with lime and monitored by the city for at least one week.

For more information, contact Joe Sanfilippo at (563) 927-2640.

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DNR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

DES MOINES — The DNR has taken the following enforcement actions. Responsible parties have 30 days to appeal the charges or 60 days to pay the penalty.

- Sue's Friendly Tavern, of Quasqueton, was ordered to pay an annual water supply operation fee of \$25, late fee of \$100 and a \$500 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to pay the annual operation fee and late fee.
- The City of Goose Lake was ordered to obtain construction approval and pay a \$1,000 penalty. The order is in regards to constructing a public water supply well without a permit.
- Highland General Store and Campground, of Highlandville, was ordered to cease providing drinking water and instruct customers to obtain water from another potable source. The order is in regards to its public water supply exceeding the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total coliforms, which may pose an acute risk to public health. Highland was also ordered to provide public notification of the violation, monitor for nitrates and coliform bacteria, repair the existing well, install an approved chlorination treatment system and provide continuous disinfection of its water supply. Highland was also ordered to cooperate with the DNR in identifying an eliminating the cause of the bacterial contamination.
- Bill Schrock, of Stockport, was ordered to cease illegal disposal of solid waste, remove and properly dispose all vehicles and other solid waste on the property, and pay a \$2,000 penalty. The order is in regards to a small salvage yard in Stockport.

- Eugene Kramer, of Monona, was ordered to remove an impoundment dam and associated piping. The order is in regards to constructing and using a water diversion structure without obtaining a water use permit.
- Patrick M. Pinney Contractors, of Correctionville, was ordered to cease the illegal disposal of solid waste and pay a \$2,000 penalty. The order is in regards to solid waste from demolition of a building in Sioux City being disposed at a site in Plymouth County.

In a separate order, Patrick M. Pinney Contractors, Inc., d.b.a. Pat Pinney Construction, of Correctionville, was ordered to comply with required asbestos removal and notification procedures in the future, and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order is in regards to the demolition of a building in Sioux City.

- Helena Chemical Company, of Guthrie Center, was ordered to cease open burning and to pay a \$1,000 penalty. The order is in regards to the open burning of nylon seed sacks that produced large volumes of black smoke and other air pollutants. The penalty has been paid.
- Henry Well Co., of Oakland, was ordered to cease open burning and to pay a \$1,000 penalty. The order is in regards to the open burning of tires and shingles, which produced large volumes of black smoke and other air pollutants.
- Darrel Behrens of Albert City and Kelly Behrens of Varina were ordered to submit a complete manure management plan (MMP) and fee, and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to submit an MMP for a facility in Buena Vista County.
- Hogville Corporation, of St. Ansgar, was ordered to submit the remainder of its manure management plan (MMP) fees and to pay a \$1,500 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to timely submit a manure management plan for a facility in Mitchell County.
- Linn Grove Hatchery, of Linn Grove, was ordered to submit a complete manure management plan (MMP) and fees, and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to submit an MMP for a facility in Buena Vista County.
- Del DeWulf, of Bennett, was ordered to submit a complete manure management plan (MMP) and fees, and to pay a \$1,500 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to submit an MMP for a facility in Cedar County.
- Puck Custom Enterprises, Inc., of Manning, and Natural Pork Production II, LLC, of Harlan, were ordered to comply with manure management plan and application requirements. Natural Pork Production II was ordered to pay a \$300 penalty, and Puck Custom Pumping was ordered to pay a \$800 penalty.

- Gary Schley, of Titonka, was ordered to submit a complete manure management plan (MMP) and fee, and to pay a \$1,500 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to submit an MMP for a facility in Emmet County.
- P&W Egg Company, L.C., of Anita, was ordered to submit a complete manure management plan (MMP) and fee, and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to submit an MMP for a facility in Cass County.
- Norm Cleveringa, of Rock Valley, was ordered to submit a complete manure management plan (MMP) and fee, and to pay a \$750 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to submit an MMP for a facility in Lyon County.
- David Meyer, of New Liberty, was ordered to submit a complete manure management plan (MMP) and fee, and to pay a \$1,500 penalty. The order is in regards to failure to submit an MMP for a facility in Cedar County.

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued in settlement of an administrative order or as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

- Ellsworth Turkey, LC, d.b.a. Sunrise Turkey Farm, of Hardin County, agreed to a consent order regarding failure to submit a manure management plan, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$1,500. The penalty has been paid. All other respects of the original order remain in effect.
- Ellsworth Turkey, LC, d.b.a. South-Side Turkey Farm, of Hamilton County, agreed to a consent order regarding failure to submit a manure management plan, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$1,500. The penalty has been paid. All other respects of the original order remain in effect.
- Ellsworth Turkey, LC, d.b.a. Blue Sky Turkey Farm, of Hardin County, agreed to a consent order regarding failure to submit a manure management plan, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$1,500. The penalty has been paid. All other respects of the original order remain in effect.

For more information, contact Jessie Rolph at (515) 281-5131 or Jessie.Rolph@dnr.state.ia.us.